

## Message Text

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15

ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 VO-03 SCA-01

INSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 /064 W  
----- 071592

P 300900Z JUL 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1436

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES: BOAT CASE MV AVA

REF: A) HONG KONG 8818 B) HONG KONG 8172 THROUGH 8177

1. AT 1600 LOCAL TODAY HKG RELEASED FOLLOWING STATMENT:  
THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT THE UNITED  
NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES AGREED TO ASSUME RE-  
SPONSIBILITY FOR THE 94 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES STILL ABORAD THE  
BURMESE VELLE AVA. A UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE IS EXPECTED TO  
ARRIVE IN HONG KONG SHORTLY TO ARRANGE TEMPORARY ACCOMODATIONS  
FOR THE REFUGEES IN HONG KONG PENDING  
THEIR PERMANENT SETTLEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND  
ELSEWHERE.  
FOR THE TIME BEING, THE REFUGEES WILL REMAIN ON BOARD THE  
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AVA WHICH IS ANCHORED IN THE INNER HARBOR. CONDITIONS ON BOARD

ARE GOOD AND MORALE IS HIGH.

COMMENTING ON THIS DEVELOPMENT, THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR. MARTIN ROWLANDS, SAID "THE SUPPORT WE HAVE RECIEVED FROM THE GOVERNMENTS OF USA, CANADA AND FRANCE HAS BEEN MOST GRATIFYING AND I AM VERY HAPPY THAT WE ARE NOW IN A POSITION TO LAND THESE REFUGEES TERMPORIARLY IN HONG KONG. I SHOULD LIKE TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE MAST OF THE AVA, CAPTAIN KHIN MAUNG, AND HIS CREW FOR LOOKING AFTER THESE REFUGEES SO WELL DURING THE PAST TRYING WEEKS."

2. CONGEN HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT UNHCR REP SAMPAT KUMAR WILL ARIVE HK TODAY AND THAT HKG PLANS PUT HIM IN TOUCH IMMEDIATELY WITH THE VOLAGAS TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF PROVIDING FOR THE REFUGEES AND EXPEDITIING THEIR RESETTLEMENT. CONGEN WILL COOPERATE FULLY WITH THE UNHCR AND VOLAGS. TO PROCESS QUICKLY THOSE ELEIGIBLE FOR US PROGRAMS.

3. TO FACILITATE OUR PROCESSING OF REFUGEES WHO MAY BE ELIGIBLE UNDER EPP. DEPARTMENT IS REQUESTED TO INFORM US SOONERST OF STATUS OF CONFRIMING CLAIMED RELATIONSHIPS OF REFUGEES REPORTED IN REF B.  
CROSS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, MARINE TRANSPORTATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976HONGK08963  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760294-1006  
**From:** HONG KONG  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t1976076/aaaaaeim.tel  
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**Office:** ACTION ORM  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** SREF, XC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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